

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/865,909	SCHWEITZER, LIMOR	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Hai V. Nguyen	2142	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 30 November 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 20- 21, 23-39 which are renumbered as 1-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                       |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.  |

*Beth Lint*  
Primary Examiner

*gm*

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's Agent, Mr. Kevin J. Zilka, registration #: 41,429 on 18 March 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method for handling network accounting information, comprising:

- (a) receiving records indicative of network events from an input source;
- (b) storing data associated with the records in a table, wherein the table includes a plurality of rows each containing a plurality of columns each including data of a different type, the data of each of the rows expiring after a predetermined time period;
- (c) selecting action events based on the input source: and
- (d) executing the selected action events on the records;
- (e) wherein at least one of the action events is executed to delete the data of each

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of the rows upon expiring;

- (f) wherein multiple action events are executed in parallel;
- (g) wherein the action events operate on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading, tracking, correlating, and aggregating;
- (h) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events, parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events, and utilizing the parsed configuration data to repeat at least one of operations (a)-(d);
- (i) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable executing each action event.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for handling network accounting information of any type, comprising:

- (a) reading configuration data which defines a table by specifying at least one field identifier and a timeout type and period, the configuration data further defining a plurality of input sources by specifying at least one parameter for each input source, the configuration data further defining a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event;
- (b) creating the table defined by the field identifier of the configuration data;
- (c) initializing the input sources;
- (d) receiving records indicative of network events from the initialized input sources;

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- (e) storing the records in the table;
- (f) selecting action events based on the input source associated with the received records;
- (g) executing the selected action events on the records utilizing event handlers; and
- (h) deleting the records upon expiring in accordance with the timeout type and period of the configuration data;
- (i) wherein at least one of the action events is executed to determine whether the data of each of the rows is deleted upon expiring;
- (j) wherein multiple action events are executed in parallel;
- (k) wherein the action events operate on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading, tracking, correlating, and aggregating;
- (l) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events, parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events, and utilizing the parsed configuration data to repeat at least one of operations (a)-(h);
- (m) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A data structure embodied on a computer readable medium for handling network accounting information of any type, comprising:

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- (a) a configuration data object which defines a table by specifying at least one field identifier and a timeout type and period, the configuration data object further defining a plurality of input sources by specifying at least one parameter for each input source, the configuration data object further defining a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event;
- (b) wherein the configuration data object is adapted for being used to create the table defined by the field identifier of the configuration data object, initialize the input sources, and load event handlers with the code included with the configuration data object;
- (c) wherein Multiple action events are capable of being executed in parallel;
- (d) wherein the action events are capable of operating, on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading, tracking, correlating, and aggregating;
- (e) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events and parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events;
- (f) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the configuration data is written in an XML format.

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25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the configuration data includes an XML header, a tables section, an input section, and an events section.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein the tables section includes a name attribute, a poolsize attribute, and a flushhandlers attribute.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein the input section includes a name attribute, a type attribute, and a handlers attribute.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the handlers attribute contains a list of events that are triggered when each record arrives at the input source.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the configuration data includes a fields section.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein the fields section includes a name attribute, a type attribute, a key attribute, all overflow attribute, and a comment attribute.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the configuration data includes a timeouts section.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 31, wherein the timeouts section includes a type attribute and a period attribute.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the configuration data includes a params section.

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34. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 33, wherein the params section includes a name attribute and a value attribute.

35. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein the events section includes a name attribute.

36. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the network accounting information includes a session source, destination, user name, duration, time, date, type of server, and volume of data transferred.

37. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein an initialization event is executed for preparing for the receipt of the records.

38. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 37, wherein the initialization event includes reading the configuration data, creating tables, and creating input sources.

39. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 38, wherein creating the input sources utilizes the configuration data.

### **Reasons For Allowance**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reasons for allowance of the claims is the inclusion of the limitation of "(f) *wherein multiple action events are executed in parallel; (g) wherein the action event operate on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading, tracking, correlating, and aggregating; (h) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events, parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events and utilizing the parsed configuration data to repeat at least one of operations (a)-(d); (i) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event*" in independent claim 20; the limitation of "(j) *wherein multiple action events are executed in parallel; (k) wherein the action event operate on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading, tracking, correlating, and aggregating; (l) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events, parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events and utilizing the parsed configuration data to repeat at least one of operations (a)-(d); (m) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event*" in independent claim 21; and the limitation of "(c) *wherein multiple action events are executed in parallel; (d) wherein the action event operate on the network accounting information and are selected from the group consisting of usage metering, reading,*



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*tracking, correlating, and aggregating; (e) wherein the execution of the selected action events includes: discarding records stored during the execution of previous action events, parsing configuration data associated with the selected action events and utilizing the parsed configuration data to repeat at least one of operations (a)-(d); (f) wherein a configuration event defines a plurality of action events by specifying code capable of executing each action event” in independent claim 23.*

The prior art, Adams et al. U.S patent # 5,778,350 B1 and Williams et al. U.S patent # 6,032,147 do not have these limitations.

3. The Examiner's interpretation of the claim language is also based upon Applicant's the enabling portions of the specification, (Figs. 2-3, pages 4-20) and Applicant's remarks on pages 7-9 received on 30 November 2004. Therefore, Applicant's instant claims are considered to be allowable.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. **Claims 20-39 which are renumbered as 1-19** are allowed.

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### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai V. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3901. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00-3:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey can be reached on 571-272-3896. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hai V. Nguyen  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2142

*Betty Linto*  
*Primary Examiner*

